WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of providing remote access to a non-Internet enabled software application for displaying utility data, the method comprising:

    providing a host system capable of communicating with a client system over an Internet connection, the host system having an Internet-ready framework;

    embedding the non-Internet enabled software application in the Internet-ready framework locally on the host system; and

    permitting selective access to the host system by the client system to access and run the non-Internet enabled software application to display utility data.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the utility data are acquired automatically from one or more remote terminal units.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the utility data include power use data.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

    prompting a user of the client system to enter a password; and

    permitting access to the host system only if the password entered by the user is identical to a predetermined password.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein:

    permitting selective access to the host system includes permitting selected access to selected data stored on the host system; and

    running the non-Internet enabled software application includes plotting the utility data in a graphical format.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the utility data include a utility consumption time series.

1   7.   A computer program, residing on a computer-readable storage medium for providing

2   remote access to a non-Internet enabled software application for displaying utility data, the

3   computer program comprising instructions to:

4   provide selective access to a host system capable of communicating with a client

5   system over an Internet connection, the host system having an Internet-ready framework;

6   embed the non-Internet enabled software application in the Internet-ready framework

7   locally on the host system; and

8   permit a client system with access to the host system to run the non-Internet enabled

9   software application to display utility data.

1   8.   The computer program of claim 7 wherein the utility data are acquired automatically

2   from one or more remote terminal units.

1   9.   The computer program of claim 7 wherein the utility data include power use data.

1   10.   The computer program of claim 7 further comprising instructions for:
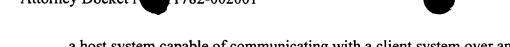
2   prompting a user of the client system to enter a password; and

3   permitting access to the host system only if the password entered by the user is

4   identical to a predetermined password.

1   11.   The computer program of claim 7 wherein:

2   permitting selective access to the host system includes permitting selected access to

3   selected data stored on the host system; and

4   running the non-Internet enabled software application includes plotting the utility data

5   in a graphical format.

1   12.   The computer program of claim 11 wherein the utility data include a utility

2   consumption time series.

1   13.   A computer system for providing remote access to a non-Internet enabled software

2   application for displaying utility data, the system comprising:

3   a host system capable of communicating with a client system over an Internet

4   connection;

5   an Internet-ready framework running on the host system embedding the non-Internet

6   enabled software application; and

7   a controller that permits selective access to the host system by the client system to

8   access and run the non-Internet enabled software application to display utility data.

1   14.   The system of claim 13 wherein the utility data are acquired automatically from one

2   or more remote terminal units.

1   15.   The system of claim 13 wherein the utility data include power use data.

1   16.   The system of claim 13 wherein the controller:

2   prompts a user of the client system to enter a password; and

3   permits access to the host system only if the password entered by the user is identical

4   to a predetermined password.

1   17.   The system of claim 13 wherein the controller permits selective access to the host

2   system by permitting selected access to selected data stored on the host system, and running

3   the non-Internet enabled software a application includes plotting the utility data in a

4   graphical format.

1   18.   The system of claim 17 wherein the utility data include a utility consumption time

2   series.